GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2215
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2016
Agricultural Production
Chauhan Shri Nihal Chand;Datta Shri Sankar Prasad;Hari Shri G.;Kataria Shri Rattan Lal;Kushwaha Shri Ram Kumar Sharma;Misra Shri Ajay (Teni);Nayak Shri B.V.;Patil Shri Kapil Moreshwar;Yeddyurappa Shri B. S.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sowing and the production of Rabi and Kharif crops in the country during the last three years and the current year, crop and State-wise;

(b) the details of projects/schemes implemented/proposed for increasing foodgrain production along with the targets and achievements in the production of foodgrains in the country during the said period, crop and State-wise;

(c) whether agricultural production has declined in the country during the said period and if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Karnataka along with the reasons therefor and its impact, if any on the poverty and starvation in the country;

(d) whether the ICAR has chalked out any strategy/plan to meet the demands of foodgrains for growing population in the country by 2050 and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the strategic plan of the Government for sustainable agricultural growth and to address the adverse issues of agriculture sector in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) to (c): The State-wise details of area and production of major crops in the country along with targets for production of foodgrains during last three years and the current year i.e. 2013-14 to 2016-17 are given in Annexures-I and II respectively.

Contdâ€¦2/-

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After achieving record production of food-grains and some other crops in 2013-14 which was an excellent agricultural year, production of food-grains and other crops in different States in the country including Karnataka declined during 2014-15 and 2015-16 on account of erratic/deficient rainfall in many areas. Decline in the agricultural production adversely impacts farmers income and poverty levels.

In order to increase production and productivity of agricultural crops in the country, the Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Soil Health Card etc.

Under these Schemes/Programmes, funds are provided to States for implementation of State-specific agricultural strategies including incentives to farmers for use of quality seeds, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), Integrated Pest Management (IPM), farm mechanization, etc. The States are also provided support for creation of agricultural infrastructure for optimal use of water and other natural resources.

(d): In order to increase agricultural production in the country, the Indian Council of Agriculture and Research in its VISION 2050 document discussed possible scenario of different aspects related to agriculture and also identified the focus areas of research. Some of the focus areas include Genetic potential enhancement of agricultural commodities; Agricultural productivity, efficiency and profitability improvement; Resilience to climate change and abiotic and biotic stresses; Sustainability of natural resources base of agriculture; New products and uses (eg, bio-energy, new crops, synthetic foods, special foods) etc.

(e): To maintain agricultural growth on sustainable basis, the Government is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) since 2014-15, focusing on promotion of location specific integrated/composite farming systems; resource conservation technologies; comprehensive soil health management; efficient on-farm water management and mainstreaming rainfed technologies. The desired interventions have also been embedded under the ongoing and the restructured schemes of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, e.g. the National Food Security Mission, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, National Mission for

Agriculture Extension & Technology, National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture etc.

The crop improvement programmes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) give emphasis on development of climate resilient new crop varieties/hybrids with improved quality and tolerance/resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses and making crops able to withstand the adverse weather conditions.